

Remarks

Claims 76-121 are pending in the application. The Examiner rejected claims 76-114, considered claims 76-114 allowable over the prior art, and considered claims 115-121 allowed. Claims 76, 86, 92, 110 and 115 are the independent claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 76-114 under 35 USC 101 because it is the Examiner's belief that the claimed method does not recite a useful, concrete and tangible result. The Applicant amended independent claims 76, 86, 92, and 110 to clarify that the methods utilize a processing means to apply heuristic rules. Applicant submits that this amendment overcomes the Examiner's 101 rejection. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

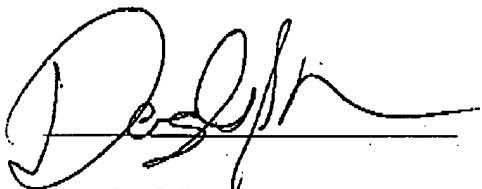
The Examiner considered claims 76-114 allowable, and claims 115-121 allowed. As the 35 USC 101 rejection regarding claims 76-114 has been removed, it is submitted that claims 76-114 are now allowed along with claims 115-121.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 76-121 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 76-121 is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned attorney to set up such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas J. Ryder, Esquire
Reg. No. 43,073

Date: 4/4/03

6206 Kellers Church Road
Pipersville, PA 18947
Phone: (215) 766-2100
Fax: (215) 766-2920
dryder@techpats.com